

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 – 20. (Canceled)

21. (Currently amended) A method of notifying a participant that a network accessible item is of current interest, including:

receiving in real time an alert from an alerting entity regarding the network accessible item;
processing the alert; and
notifying the participant that the item is of current interest;
wherein the alerting entity is not the participant; and the item is associated with content that changes over time and the alert indicates that the content of the item at the current time is of interest.

22. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method as recited in according to claim 21, wherein the item is identified by a Universal Resource Locator (URL).

23. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method as recited in according to claim 21, wherein the item includes dynamic content.

24. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method as recited in according to claim 21, wherein the alert includes an interest category assigned by the alerting entity.

25. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method as recited in according to claim 21, wherein processing the alert includes determining an alert intensity.

26. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method as recited in according to claim 21, wherein processing the alert includes determining an alert intensity based at least in part on the alerting entity's identity.

27. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method as recited in according to claim 21, wherein processing the alert includes updating a timestamp.
28. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method as recited in according to claim 21 further including storing data associated with the alert.
29. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method as recited in according to claim 21, wherein processing the alert includes using data associated with a previous alert.
30. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method as recited in according to claim 21, wherein processing the alert includes determining an intensity rank.
31. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method as recited in according to claim 21, wherein processing the alert includes determining an intensity rank that decays exponentially with time.
32. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method as recited in according to claim 21, wherein processing the alert includes:
determining an intensity rank; and
in the event the intensity rank is below a threshold, deleting data associated with the item.
33. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method as recited in according to claim 21, wherein processing the alert includes assigning an interest category to the item.
34. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method as recited in according to claim 21, wherein the participant is notified about a plurality of items of current interest and the plurality of items are selected based at least in part on an interest category associated with the participant.
35. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method as recited in according to claim 21, wherein the participant is notified about a plurality of items of current interest and the plurality of items are selected based at least in part on intensity rank.
36. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method as recited in according to claim 21, wherein the participant is notified about a plurality of items of current interest and the plurality of items are ordered with respect to each other.

37. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method as recited in according to claim 21, wherein the participant is notified about a plurality of items of current interest and the plurality of items are selected based at least in part on a sensitivity level associated with the participant.
38. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method as recited in according to claim 21 further including displaying to the participant content associated with the item of current interest.
39. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method as recited in according to claim 21 further including displaying to the participant content associated with the item of current interest via an interface used to obtain an interest category for the participant.
40. (Currently amended) A system for notifying a participant that a network accessible item is of current interest, including:
an interface configured to receive in real time an alert from an alerting entity regarding the network accessible item; and
a processor configured to:
process the alert; and
notify the participant that the item is of current interest;
wherein the alerting entity is not the participant; and the item is associated with content that changes over time and the alert indicates that the content of the item at the current time is of interest.
41. (Currently amended) [[A]] The system as recited in according to claim 40, wherein the item is identified by a Universal Resource Locator (URL).
42. (Currently amended) [[A]] The system as recited in according to claim 40, wherein processing the alert includes determining an alert intensity.
43. (Currently amended) [[A]] The system as recited in according to claim 40, wherein processing the alert includes updating a timestamp.
44. (Currently amended) [[A]] The system as recited in according to claim 40, wherein processing the alert includes determining an intensity rank.
45. (Currently amended) [[A]] The system as recited in according to claim 40, wherein processing the alert includes assigning an interest category to the item.

46. (Currently amended) [[A]] The system as recited in according to claim 40, wherein the process is further configured to display to the participant content associated with the item of current interest.
47. (Currently amended) A computer program product for notifying a participant that a network accessible item is of current interest, the computer program product being embodied in a computer readable medium and comprising computer executable instructions [[for]] to:
receiving receive in real time an alert from an alerting entity regarding the network accessible item;
process[[ing]] the alert; and
notify[[ing]] the participant that the item is of current interest;
wherein the alerting entity is not the participant; and the item is associated with content that changes over time and the alert indicates that the content of the item at the current time is of interest.
48. (Currently amended) [[A]] The computer program product as recited in according to claim 47, wherein the item is identified by a Universal Resource Locator (URL).
49. (Currently amended) [[A]] The computer program product as recited in according to claim 47, wherein processing the alert includes determining an alert intensity.
50. (Currently amended) [[A]] The computer program product as recited in according to claim 47, wherein processing the alert includes updating a timestamp.
51. (Currently amended) [[A]] The computer program product as recited in according to claim 47, wherein processing the alert includes determining an intensity rank.
52. (Currently amended) [[A]] The computer program product as recited in according to claim 47, wherein processing the alert includes assigning an interest category to the item.
53. (Currently amended) [[A]] The computer program product as recited in according to claim 47 further including displaying to the participant content associated with the item of current interest.